

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 18th Nov 1880

My dear Dr Gray,

This comes with it very many sincere wishes and congratulations for the birthday. You have doubtless seen this received the Sunday Herald sketch of your life threatened in the summer, you may remember, and taken in October. Mr. Baxter did the things you couldn't reasonably object to, and on the whole he made a very readable notice and in excellent taste. Mr. Baxter tried to wait until next Sunday but he found copy scarce perhaps.

You would smile if you could know how many letters of absolutely trivial importance come every day; just to get your autograph I think. The letter about plants &c, I answer as best I may, and leave the rest for Watson. His last states that he is now bound for the "Blue", and may come by the last of Dec^r. His sister has shut up her house again and gone to Northampton. I am very glad he is having such a good rest.

Wilson was expected back this week from the West; instead of seeing him, I have just taken a letter from him in which he says that on Thursday he is to be married! and that is today. He marries Miss Wilcox, of whom Mrs Gray perhaps knows; as a very remarkable pupil of Prof. Agassiz, and said to be very pretty. The couple arrive in Boston on Saturday, & sail in the *Bothnia* on Wednesday next. I shall send a few things to you by him. You will not shudder I hope when I say that I shall also send by him a copy of my report on the Garden. It is

in N.Y., & has already gone before Mr. Agassiz
& the Brit., but needs a few changes, some
of them have been partly made. Will you please
make any suggestions or changes you may care
to, and forward the interlineations to me by
the middle of Dec^r-, so that I shall get it by
the last of the month.

Mrs Goodale still suffers severely from
Neuralgia, & great weakness following the slightest
Excitation, but appears to be gaining slowly. She
finds the house pleasant, & the neighbors very
kind. We unite in sending affectionate regards
to you both.

Yours very faithfully

J. Goodale

A bouquet has just come in for Dr
Seay, with a card of good wishes from
Miss Charlotte Fiske Bates. I do wish
you could have the flowers, but we
are enjoying them for you.